

Fellows and Young Investigators Steering Committee Meeting
Thursday September 24th, 2009
Time: 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Frederick: Building 430, 2nd Floor Conference Room
Dial in Number: (301) 451-6102 phone: (301) 846-1998
Bethesda: Building 40, Rm 1201/1203
Phone: (301) 480-2675

Agenda Items:

1. Call to Order
 - a. Welcome to new members and introductions

New member: Anthony Saleh (radiation oncology branch – Bethesda)

- b. Attendance

Frederick: Stephanie Watkins, Vaibhav Saini, George Lountos, Kate McGee, Neeraj Sharma, Katie Stagliano, Jim Gould
Bethesda: Raed Samara, Jason De La Cruz, Mary Velthius, Anthony Saleh

2. Excused Absences: Tim Chan, Kim Shafer-Weaver, Rasmi Thomas, Leslie Chinn, Brid Ryan, Rachel Dekluyver, Liang Huang, Jill Ford, Selinda Orr, Geraldine O'Connor, Orla Casey

Absences: Jordan Irvin, Thomas Paul, Albert VanWyk, Karobi Moitra, Masha Mohebtash, Lea Cunningham

3. Departures: Michal Legiewicz

4. Approval of August 2009 meeting minutes
 - a. August 2009 meeting minutes have been distributed by Raed on September 22nd. Minutes approved

5. Subcommittee updates:

Scientific Committee: Chair – Stephanie Watkins

Mission: Lea and Stephanie have been working on an idea Lea had as to where to start on our mission of facilitating collaborations between basic science and clinical fellow. We are trying to obtain background research into how access to tissue banks at NCI is currently handled.

1. What are the clinical trials?
2. Who had access?
3. Fill in the gaps and create some surveys/focus groups to further delineate researcher and clinician needs.

Lea has done most of the work on this and will take the lead role with some help in finding out the background information. If anyone has this information or can help her obtain it, please email one of us: cunninle@mail.nih.gov or watkinssk@mail.nih.gov

Seminar

PASS: No Update (Raed/Brid will meet with Shawn Mullins from OITE to discuss possible collaborations)

Frederick Fellows: No update (According to Jordan, seminars will be moving into a new direction)

Survey: (Kate) I created bar charts displaying the responses from the survey taken at last year's retreat and will begin placing these in the layout of the poster for display at this year's retreat.

Bylaws Committee: Chair – Tom Paul

Review By-Laws regarding use of “postbac”. By-Laws can be found at:

<http://ccr.cancer.gov/careers/fellows/by-laws.asp>

If anyone has any suggestion, please email Tom

Community Life: Chair – *Vacant* (Raed has volunteered to be chair.)

Although Raed volunteered, members of the committee have to elect their Chair. Members will determine this through email.

Felcom: (Tom) Orla Casey will be taking the SC FelCom position next month as basic science rep. Also take advantage of the OITE career track seminars:

<http://www.training.nih.gov/trainees/toolkit/index.asp>

NPA: (Raed) September 24th National Postdoc Association's Postdoc Appreciation Day. Efforts are in the planning stages to organize a gathering from 3-5pm that day on the lawn in front of Building 1. Outside 549 12-1:30 in Frederick.

NPA is asking each institution for coverage of their postdoc appreciation day. If someone from Frederick can do the write-up, that would be great.

Newsletter: (Tim) The newsletter has been assembled and the editors are currently doing the first round of proofing. Plans will be to distribute a copy to the SC next week for another round of proofing and comments. Goal is to have this version of the newsletter out at the beginning/middle of October (distributed through the listserv and ready for posting online).

Social: (Jill) The annual FYI picnic was held on August 29th at the Seneca Creek State Park. The social committee would like to thank all of you that came out to support the picnic and make it a success. Approximately 25 people attended the picnic, which exceeded our numbers from last year's picnic. In addition, we had ~10 non-FYI affiliated CCR fellows/postbacs attend the event. Those fellows have been contacted to thank them for attending the picnic as well as given a link to the FYI website in an attempt by us to gain their interest in our organization. Lookout for an e-mail in the coming weeks about future social events.

If anyone has ideas, email Jill

Website: (Liang) The next round of website updates will take place after this month's meeting. I will contact Raed for approved meeting minutes and the updated members' list.

Orientation: Bethesda (Liang) I have nothing to report on the NCI orientation.
Frederick (Jim) Wednesday October 14th 9am Bldg 478 Jill and Geraldine will attend.

Retreat Subcommittee: Chair – Stephanie Watkins

Career Fair and Survivorship Series: (Katie)

Career Fair: (1) We have our comprehensive list of about 300 companies that was provided to us by last year's retreat subcommittee. This is a great resource for us, but we are always looking to expand. We will be in touch with TEDCO (Maryland Technology Development Corporation) to try to recruit smaller, local companies.

<http://www.marylandtedco.org/>

(2) Tom Paul suggested two avenues for recruiting companies. One is to solicit them through LinkedIn which Raed also recommended. We plan on trying this as soon as we have the final retreat date and location.

(3) Tom's other suggestion was to solicit companies at other job fairs. Kim is attending a Biospace career fair on Sept 24th in Bethesda. We wrote a letter to potential participants that she will hand out, while also gaining contact information from them.

(4) Kim and I need 5-6 volunteers from the SC to help us call companies for the career fair once the retreat date/venue are set. We will have a script for you to use.
Survivorship: (1) I watched "In the Family" by Joanna Rudnick. I think inviting Joanna to be the survivorship speaker would be feasible. My only hesitation is that the film and topic are similar to last year's presentation. I have the DVD if anyone else would like to watch and express an opinion. Here is a little snippet about her:

<http://www.kartemquin.com/about/joanna-rudnick>

(2) In an effort to expand our options for the Survivorship segment, I contacted the NCI Office of Advocacy Relations. Elizabeth Neilson is the contact person there for the CARRA program. CARRA is Consumer Advocates in Research and Related Activities. This program was highly recommended to me by the NCI Office of Survivorship as a source of advocates for all types of cancers.

(3) If anyone has any suggestions for the survivorship segment, please let us know.

Logistics / Agenda: (Liang) We just received confirmation that all is a go for the contractor – Julia Lamb at SAIC- Frederick. Julia said she will be sending a tentative list of locations soon. Once we have the list we can get input from the rest of the committee.

Workshops: (Raed and Karobi) Has compiled the list of potential workshops and is working with Christian to set up the survey. The survey will be sent to the entire postdoc list serve for voting.

Keynote Speakers / Outstanding Postdoc: (Stephanie)

Keynote Speaker Section: The top 5 inside and outside speakers reported by the survey monkey were sent to members of the retreat committee for final selection. Once a venue is set we will send letters to the top 2 outside and top 2 inside. The top 4 people are as follows:

Outside:

- 1) Rodger Kornberg – PhD – Structural Biology/Chemistry at Stanford University Medical School – 2006 Nobel prize - describing for the first time the structure of eukaryotic RNA polymerase II at the atomic level.
- 2) Jill Suttles – PhD from Microbiology/Immunology at University of Louisville School of Medicine and the Brown Cancer center – Cell signaling and targeting immune cells in inflammation and cancer.

NIH/NCI:

- 1) Glen Merlino – PhD - Chief, Molecular Genetics Section, LMB, DBS, NCI – making mouse models of cancer through genetic approaches.
- 2) Barbra Felber – PhD – Head, Human Retrovirus Pathogenesis Section, NCI-Frederick - Posttranscriptional Control of Gene Expression, Pathogenesis of SIV and Prevention of AIDS.

If any of those refuse the next people on the list will be sent an invitation: Outside: 3) Elizabeth Jaffee 4) Megan Sykes 5) Bert Vogelstein (He would only attend if we were holding the retreat in Baltimore).

NIH/NCI: 3) George Pavilakis 4) Bradford Wood 5) Ron Gress

Outstanding Postdoc: Materials have been sent to judges – results are due back Oct.

1st.

6. New Business:

- (Raed) Can we discuss having a Publicity subcommittee? (Raed will communicate with Tom and Jim for this)
- (Jason) I'm still working with Jeff on the template for the Wiki site, so I won't have anything ready yet in time for the meeting on Thursday. We can possibly discuss content for the site, but it's probably easier/better to do after we see an example.
(Jonathan) It turns out that we already have a Wiki that could be used for the Steering Committee if you think that would be helpful. The link to the CCR Steering Committee wiki is below. I am not sure if you have access yet... Usually the login credentials are your normal username and password. If you like the idea of a wiki, we can finalize the site and we can even have our CCR Office of Information Technology Head Jeff Shilling come and give a little training session if needed.
<https://ccrod.cancer.gov/confluence/display/FYISteering>

7. Adjournment: Next meeting is on Thursday, October 29th, 2009 at from 11 am to 12 pm.